Dear Frances and David, 10/30/90

First something I think all of you, particularly the boys, will enjoy when you are next in this area. About five minutes away, where they have a truck-farming operation, two men both older than I make cider. It is usually on a Saturday morning. They use their own apples but no preservatives and they don't filter it. Unlike commercially, they do go over the apples and remove the bad spots, etc. They still have the old hand press but this year they have a motor-driven one. They charge $2.50 a gallon.

I think that for his project David should go over some pictures I have. I have negatives he can borrow on most of them if not all. CNN plans a show, perhaps for today, and if so I'm letting you know too late, on the Livingstone-Groden book. I discouraged their using me and I've not heard from them since. I think maybe David and Richard will want a cassette of it. I think they will be using Groden and David Wrone. Probably others.

I made two inadvertent errors when I filed my brief, no record extract and not the complete transcript of the circuit court hearing. I'm hoping the appeals court will be understanding and forgiving and accept late filing of the extract and permit me to get the rest of the transcript and file it.

I have a question I hope you can answer. I alleged fraud and the fraud alone is what made the malpractise possible. Is this within the Act or with fraud can that be a different action, under other law? Them other side has ignored this entirely. Not even a pro forma denial.

Also, I've been thinking about the to me strange business of the Georgetown University Hospital giving me the records on the left femoral bypass and the first of the two subsequent emergency operations on it. Why would they persist in withholding the records of the second emergency operation? The chief surgeon, then its chief of surgery, was the late Dr. Charles A. Hufnagel, a great surgeon and a fine man we grew to like very much. After he left Georgetwon he saw me every six weeks. After he died I got his records. The only record he had of this second emergency operation was his report on it. They then had to shorten the teflon artery they had put in because they'd made it too long. Apparently at a kink is where the obstruction was. They never told me that. When I asked I was told that a piece of my own artery had broken loose and caused the blockage. It caused a total blockage on that side and when they started to operate they did not expect my heart to tolerate it. They expected me to die on the table.

I continue to be baffled at HSCAO's refusal to provide access to the discovery it subpoenaed for me.

I don't know the going rate in Baltimore but I'd be surprised if the panel chairman spent two hours on the case. As you'll see, I've made a direct assault on him and on the system. He had at least two laws and four decisions plus the case record to master and then prepare his decision. Brief as his decision was, could he possibly have done all he should have for les than $200? I doubt it. What a system!

Best to you all,

Harold